Appl. No. 10/516,866 Amdt. Dated January 18, 2008 Reply to Office action of November 19, 2007 Attorney Docket No. P17157-US1 EUS/J/P/08-3021

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2617 § Group Art Unit: Andreas Witzel, et al. Applicants:

Kwasi Karikari Examiner: Serial No: 10/516,866

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Attorney Docket No: P17157-US1

Customer No.: 27045

OPERATING OF A SWITCHING NODE IN A COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

COMPRISING BOTH A LAYERED AND A NON-LAYERED ARCHITECTURAL

ENVIRONMENT

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United Sates Postal Service with sufficient postage for First class or Express mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO at (571) 273-8300, or electronically via EFS-Web on the date indicated below.

Date: January 18, 2008

Name: Melissa Wingo

Signature:

Dear Examiner:

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R §1.116

In response to the Final Office action of November 19, 2007, the Applicant submits the following remarks and/or amendments. If any extension of time for this Response is required, the Applicants request that this be considered a petition therefore. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1379.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.